

WALL ST. MARKET

ACTIVITIES REMAIN IN CHECK IN EARLY HOURS

Price Changes of Small Proportions Mark Opening Transactions, and Were Too Irregular to Impart Definite Tendency—Few Specialties Develop Slight Strength—Cuba Cane Sugar Scores Advance.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The stock market pursued the even tenor of recent days this morning, dealings during the early hours being governed by the same factors of international uncertainty and restraint which have held speculative activities in check recently.

Price changes of small proportions marked opening transactions and were too irregular to impart a definite tendency to the trading. But a small group of stocks made any kind of a showing on the tape, prominent among these being a few specialties, which developed slight strength. Cuba Cane Sugar scored an advance of nearly 2 points in the early trading, while American Beet Sugar moved forward 2 points or so.

Fluctuations in standard descriptions were extremely uninteresting and without significance, price changes being largely the result of sales entered into by the professional element.

United States Steel held around or slightly under yesterday's level, but displayed a firm tendency on light purchasing. Ralls were neglected and featureless, although New Haven improved fractionally. Two new stocks were added to the exchange list, Cerro de Pasco Copper and Ohio Fuel Supply, the latter opening at 52 and advancing a point.

Interest in the general list shrunk to small proportions with the progress of the session, and traders turned their attention to specialties. Isolated points of strength were found in Continental Can, which rose some 6 points, the sugar stocks, corn products, and a few other issues, which had no bearing on the trading as a whole.

Ralls were entirely neglected as a result of the serious embargo on freight, but on the other hand no attempt was made to depress this quarter of the list. Market-wise news was meagre and the speculative element fell to discussing the market's technical position and connecting the size of the short interest.

But conclusions were as conflicting and unsatisfactory as the market itself. Business was in smaller volume than yesterday. The late undertone of the market was fairly firm, and quotations seemed to be marked up easily on any demand, but sustained buying inclinations were absent.

Quotations today up to 1:30 o'clock were as follows:

	Open	High	Low	1:30
Acme Tea...	55	55	55	55
Acme Tea pf...	95	95	95	95
Alaska G. S...	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2
Am Ag Chem...	85	85	85	85
Am Bt Sug...	99 1/2	101 1/2	99 1/2	101 1/2
Am Can...	43	44 1/2	43	43 1/2
Am Car Fdy...	62 1/2	62 1/2	62 1/2	62 1/2
Am C Sugar...	160	160	160	160
Am Hal p...	63 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2
A Ice Sec...	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2
Am Lined...	18	18 1/2	18	18
Am Lin pf...	51	51	51	51
Am Loco...	70 1/2	70 1/2	70 1/2	70 1/2
A Loco pf...	103	103	103	103
Am Smeit...	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2
Am Smt pf...	112 1/2	112 1/2	112 1/2	112 1/2
A Steel Fy...	89	89	89	89
Am Sugar...	107	108	107	108
Am T & T...	124 1/2	124 1/2	124 1/2	124 1/2
Am Wool...	47 1/2	48	47 1/2	47 1/2
Am W P pf...	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2
Am Zinc...	36	36	36	36
Anacosta...	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2
A T & S F...	102 1/2	102 1/2	102 1/2	102 1/2
A T & S F pf...	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2
Bald Loco...	53	53 1/2	52	52
Balt & Ohio...	76 1/2	76 1/2	76 1/2	76 1/2
Batoplas...	13 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2
Beth Steel...	380	380	380	380
Bklyn R T...	68	68	68	68
Burns Bros...	106 1/2	106 1/2	106 1/2	106 1/2
Cal Petm...	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
Cal Pet pf...	52	52 1/2	52	52 1/2
Can Pac...	153	153	153	153
Can Lethr...	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2	85 1/2
Ches & Ohio...	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2	59 1/2
Chi W G pf...	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
Chi N W...	117 1/2	117 1/2	115 1/2	116
CMASP...	79 1/2	80	79 1/2	80
CMASL pf...	119 1/2	119 1/2	119 1/2	119 1/2
Chile Cop...	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2
Chino Cop...	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2	53 1/2
Col F & E...	43 1/2	43 1/2	43 1/2	43 1/2
Col G & E...	38 1/2	39 1/2	38 1/2	39 1/2
Corn Gas...	122 1/2	122 1/2	122	122
Corn Inc...	52	52	52	52
Corn Prod...	20 1/2	21 1/2	20 1/2	21 1/2
Corn Can...	90	94	90	92
Cuba Steel...	64	65	63 1/2	64 1/2
Cuba Cane...	37	39 1/2	37	38 1/2
Cuba C pf...	86 1/2	88 1/2	86 1/2	88
D L & W...	227 1/2	227 1/2	227 1/2	227 1/2
Del Hud...	140 1/2	143 1/2	140 1/2	143
Distrl's Sec...	26	26	26	26
Erie...	26	26 1/2	26	26
Fed M S pf...	42 1/2	44 1/2	42 1/2	43 1/2
Gan Elec...	163 1/2	164	163 1/2	164
Granby...	81	81	81	81
G N Ore...	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
G N Cent...	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2
Inspiration...	54 1/2	55 1/2	54 1/2	55
Int Nkl...	41	41	41	41
Int Pap...	37 1/2	37 1/2	37	37
Int Pap pf...	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2	95 1/2
Inter C...	13	13	13	13
Inter C pf...	62 1/2	62 1/2	62 1/2	62 1/2
Kennecott...	43 1/2	43 1/2	43 1/2	43 1/2
Lacle G...	100	100	100	100
Lehigh V...	72 1/2	72 1/2	72	72
Loose W...	22 1/2	22 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2
Mackay...	87 1/2	88	87 1/2	88
Marine...	23	23 1/2	23	23 1/2
Mar pf...	67 1/2	67 1/2	67 1/2	67 1/2
Max Mot...	64 1/2	64 1/2	64 1/2	64 1/2
Max M pf...	66	66	66	66
Max M pf...	35 1/2	35 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
Max D S pf...	60	60	60	60
Max D S pf...	85 1/2	85 1/2	84 1/2	85 1/2
M K & T...	8	8	8	8
M Puc...	11	11	11	11

LOCAL MARKET

BOTH STOCKS AND BONDS IN GOOD DEMAND

Exchange Takes on New Life Under Today's Condition—Washington Gas Is Early Feature of Session—Net Gain of Point and a Half Is Shown Over Last Previous Sale.

Trading on the Washington Stock Exchange took on new life today, with demand for both stocks and bonds better than for several weeks, and with prices generally strong throughout the list.

Selling at 74, a new high since the reduction in the price of gas last fall, Washington Gas stock was easily the feature of the session. This price was paid for a ten-share lot, the only stock disclosed as a result of bidding the stock up from yesterday's close of 72.

This represents a net gain of a point and a half over the last previous sale, which was at 72 1/2. The stock was sold with 7 1/2% strongly bid and with the lowest offering 74 1/2. Since the stock settled down following the reduction by Congress last fall, the price has averaged between 71 and 72 1/2, with the exception of today's sale.

There was no news to account for the strong support given the stock. Bonds were in excellent demand, a total of more than \$11,000 worth changing hands. Railway 4's which showed signs of recovery yesterday from recent low levels at which they have been selling, made further gains today with the sale of two \$1,000 American bonds at 100 1/2.

Graphophone 6 per cent bond sold at 102 1/2, and two small bonds brought 104 1/2. Potomac Consolidated 5's, totaling \$5,000, sold at 100 1/2, and a total of \$5,000 worth of Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company's 5's brought 104.

TODAY'S SALES.
Washington Railway and Electric 4's, \$1,000,000, \$1,000,000.
Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 5's, \$1,000,000.
Potomac Cons. 5's, \$1,000,000.
American Graphophone 6's, \$1,000,000.
Capital Traction, 20@83 1/2, 20@83 1/2.
Washington Railway and Electric preferred, 25@82 1/2, 25@82 1/2.
Washington Gas, 10@74 1/2, 10@74 1/2.
Lanston, 20@73, 20@73.

AFTER CALL.
Washington Railway and Electric pf'd, 25@82 1/2, 25@82 1/2.
American Graphophone 6's, \$1,000,000.
Capital Traction, 30@83 1/2, 15@83 1/2.
Washington Railway and Electric pf'd, 25@82 1/2.
Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 5's, \$2,000,000.
Capital Traction, 10@83 1/2.
Norfolk and Washington Steamboat 5's, 10@100 1/2.

LOCAL BOND MARKET.
GOVERNMENT BONDS.
U. S. Reg. 2's, 100% 100%
U. S. Coupon 2's, 101% 101%
U. S. Reg. 3's, 101% 101%
U. S. Coupon 3's, 101% 101%
U. S. Reg. 4's, 100% 100%
U. S. Coupon 4's, 110% 110%
D. C. 3 1/2's, 103% 103%

GAS BONDS.
Geo. Gas Cert. Ind. 5's, 105% 105%
Georgetown Gas 5's, 106% 106%
Washington Gas 5's, 106 1/2% 106 1/2%
Col. Gas & Elec. Deb. 5's, 78% 78%
RAILROAD BONDS.
Cap. Traction R. R. 5's, 106% 106%
Ana. Pot. Guar. 5's, 99% 99%
Anacosta & Potom. 5's, 98% 98%
City & Potom. 5's, 100% 100%
Metrop. R. R. 5's, 103 1/2% 103 1/2%
Wash. Ry. & Elec. 4's, 80% 80%
Wash. Alex. & Mt. V. 5's, 80% 80%

MISCELLANEOUS BONDS.
Potomac Elec. Cons. 5's, 100% 100%
Potomac Elec. L. 5's, 104 1/2% 104 1/2%
A. P. Telephone 5's, 104 1/2% 104 1/2%
A. P. Paper Mfg. 5's, 102% 102%
D. C. Paper Mfg. 5's, 100% 100%
Wash. Market 5's (1927) 98% 98%
Wash. Market 5's (1947) 98% 98%
W. M. Cold Storage 5's, 98 1/2% 98 1/2%
N. & W. Steamboat 5's, 105% 105%
Riggs Realty 5's (long) 101% 102%
Riggs Realty 5's (short) 100% 100%
U. S. Realty 5's, 104% 104%

PUBLIC UTILITY STOCKS.
Capital Traction, 32 1/2% 32 1/2%
Wash. Ry. & Elec. Co., 77 1/2% 77 1/2%
Wash. Ry. & Elec. pf'd 82 1/2% 82 1/2%
N. & W. Steamboat, 150% 150%
Washington Gas, 73 1/2% 74%
Georgetown Gas, 106% 106%
Col. Gas & Elec., 36% 36%
Am. Tel. & Tel., 124% 124%
TYPE MACHINE STOCKS.
Mergenthaler Linotype, 166 1/2% 167 1/2%
Lanston Monotype, 72 1/2% 73%

MINING STOCK.
Greene Cananea, 40% 40%
NATIONAL BANK STOCKS.
American Nat. Bank, 158% 170%
Capital Nat. Bank, 222% 222%
Columbia Nat. Bank, 240% 250%
Bank of Wash., 210% 210%
Dist. Nat. Bank, 143% 148%
Far. & Mech. Nat. Bk., 240% 240%
Federal Nat. Bank, 158% 162%
Lincoln Nat. Bank, 160% 160%
Nat. Metrop. Bank, 205% 205%
Riggs Nat. Bank, 500% 500%
Second Nat. Bank, 141% 150%
Nat. Bk. of Wash., 220% 230%

TRUST COMPANY STOCKS.
Amer. Sec. & Trust, 260% 265%
Nat. Sav. & Trust, 275% 275%
Union Trust, 124% 124%
Wash. Loan & Trust, 231% 241%
Cont. Trust, 125% 125%
SAVINGS BANK STOCKS.
Home Savings, 420% 420%
Bank of Com. & Sav., 12% 12%
East Wash. Sav. Bank, 12 1/2% 12 1/2%
Sec. Sav. & Com. Bank, 152% 152%
FIRE INSURANCE STOCKS.
Arlington Fire Ins., 84% 84%
Corcoran Fire Ins., 80% 80%
Fireman's Fire Ins., 19% 19%
Ger-Am Fire Ins., 255% 255%
Nat. Union Fire Ins., 63% 10%
Potomac Fire Ins., 28% 28%
TITLE INSURANCE STOCKS.
Columbia Title Ins., 4% 5 1/2%
Real Estate Title Ins., 75% 75%

MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.
Chapin Stock, 170% 200%
D. C. Paper Mfg. Co., 140% 200%
Grapho. Com., 147% 153%
Grapho. pf'd, 146% 162%
Mer. T. & S., 100% 105%
Security Storage, 185% 185%
U. S. Realty Co., 11% 11%

NEWS FOR INVESTORS

Triple Dividend Announced.

Gulf State Steel Company has declared a dividend of 7 per cent on the first preferred stock, a dividend of 6 per cent on the second preferred, and the quarterly dividend of 2 per cent on the common stock. The dividend on the preferred stocks is payable in quarterly installments, April 2, July 2, October 1, and January 2, 1918. The common stock dividend is payable April 2 next.

South Penn Oil Company has voted to increase its capital to \$20,000,000, the new stock to be issued as a 60 per cent stock dividend to holders of record February 14.

Unfilled locomotive orders on the books of Baldwin Locomotive Works are the largest in the company's history and are sufficient to keep the plant running at its present capacity taken at prices which will result in a very satisfactory margin of profit. Since the summer of 1915, when locomotive prices were at the lowest point in years, the price trend has been steadily upward.

Referring to the last report of the Federal Reserve Bank, George M. Reynolds, president of Continental and Commercial National Bank of Chicago, says the country is now in a position to stand a financial strain eight times as severe as that of 1907. Under the Aldrich-Vreeland act of 1907 the banks issued \$300,000,000. The aid which the Federal Reserve System and pending legislation could extend to banks, Mr. Reynolds estimates, would be about \$2,075,000,000.

Cold weather has added to the trials of insufficient cars and locomotives, and, though the weather is now milder, the production of the Central West in pig iron and semi-finished steel is idle, says the Iron Age. About thirty blast furnaces of the Steel Corporation are banked, and more may follow. The industry cannot push out product against lines of standing loaded cars, nor can it get steady inflow of materials if empty cars do not reach sources of supply.

A prominent Wall Street house reports that in recent days it has received substantial buying orders for various industrial stocks from large investment interests who believe that at current prices these issues offer attractive opportunities for placing idle funds. There are many industrial shares in which the margin of safety is unusually wide, based on present dividends and earnings for the past year. Earnings last year were, of course, abnormal, but those earnings in the cases of the best companies could be materially cut, and yet the margin of safety for dividend payments would be large.

A big New York brokerage house reports that its Western branch house is receiving many inquiries from farmers who desire to invest funds in Wall Street, in view of the fact that hogs are selling at \$12.50 a hundredweight, lambs at \$14.50, and other farm products at proportionate prices. It is not surprising that the farmers are inclined to find use for their surplus funds in the stock market.

Central Leather common, which reached a high level of 123 in 1916, to a great extent monopolized attention among the industrial shares in yesterday's market, buying accompanying reports that the directors soon would declare an extra dividend. The company is known to be making a great amount of money, and its prospects for a substantial surplus above regular dividend requirements are excellent. The trade position of the company is particularly strong because of its large holdings of skins and hides in an unusually strong market.

That a large amount of Canadian Pacific stock has passed into the hands of persons in the United States, is reflected in a statement by interests identified with the company, showing that the percentage of common stockholders in this country is about 25 as compared with 22.12 in October last, and 10.39 in August, 1915. The percentage of stockholders in England last October was 25, which is a reduction of about 13 per cent as compared with August, 1915.

Atlas Powder Makes Big Gains. "Gross business for 1916 was by far the largest in the history of the company," says W. E. Webster, president of the Atlas Powder Company, in a statement to stockholders. "While some of the increase was due to the manufacture and sale of chemical products, not ordinarily a large factor in its normal business, there was a substantial increase in regular commercial business."

WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKET.
BUTTER—Plain print, 40c; 1/2 lb. 40c; process, 25c; store packed, 25c.
EGGS—New York, 21c; Southern, 20c; CINCINNATI—New York State, factory, new, 20c.
POULTRY—Live hens, per lb., 20c; roosters, per lb., 16c; turkeys, per lb., 28c; geese, per lb., 18c; ducks, per lb., 18c; chickens, per lb., 18c; geese, per lb., 18c; ducks, per lb., 18c; chickens, per lb., 18c.
VEGETABLES—Potatoes, per bushel, \$1.00; corn, per bushel, \$1.00; beans, per bushel, \$1.00; peas, per bushel, \$1.00; lentils, per bushel, \$1.00; chickpeas, per bushel, \$1.00; soybeans, per bushel, \$1.00; peanuts, per bushel, \$1.00; cottonseed, per bushel, \$1.00; flaxseed, per bushel, \$1.00; rapeseed, per bushel, \$1.00; sunflower, per bushel, \$1.00; safflower, per bushel, \$1.00; sesame, per bushel, \$1.00; linseed, per bushel, \$1.00; castor, per bushel, \$1.00; coconut, per bushel, \$1.00; palm, per bushel, \$1.00; olive, per bushel, \$1.00; almond, per bushel, \$1.00; walnut, per bushel, \$1.00; pecan, per bushel, \$1.00; cashew, per bushel, \$1.00; pistachio, per bushel, \$1.00; hazelnut, per bushel, \$1.00; macadamia, per bushel, \$1.00; Brazil, per bushel, \$1.00; pineapple, per bushel, \$1.00; banana, per bushel, \$1.00; apple, per bushel, \$1.00; orange, per bushel, \$1.00; grape, per bushel, \$1.00; pear, per bushel, \$1.00; peach, per bushel, \$1.00; cherry, per bushel, \$1.00; plum, per bushel, \$1.00; strawberry, per bushel, \$1.00; raspberry, per bushel, \$1.00; blueberry, per bushel, \$1.00; blackberry, per bushel, \$1.00; currant, per bushel, \$1.00; elderberry, per bushel, \$1.00; gooseberry, per bushel, \$1.00; huckleberry, per bushel, \$1.00; mulberry, per bushel, \$1.00; persimmon, per bushel, \$1.00; fig, per bushel, \$1.00; date, per bushel, \$1.00; olive, per bushel, \$1.00; walnut, per bushel, \$1.00; pecan, per bushel, \$1.00; cashew, per bushel, \$1.00; pistachio, per bushel, \$1.00; hazelnut, per bushel, \$1.00; macadamia, per bushel, \$1.00; Brazil, per bushel, \$1.00; pineapple, per bushel, \$1.00; banana, per bushel, \$1.00; apple, per bushel, \$1.00; orange, per bushel, \$1.00; grape, per bushel, \$1.00; pear, per bushel, \$1.00; peach, per bushel, \$1.00; cherry, per bushel, \$1.00; plum, per bushel, \$1.00; strawberry, per bushel, \$1.00; raspberry, per bushel, \$1.00; blueberry, per bushel, \$1.00; blackberry, per bushel, \$1.00; currant, per bushel, \$1.00; 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